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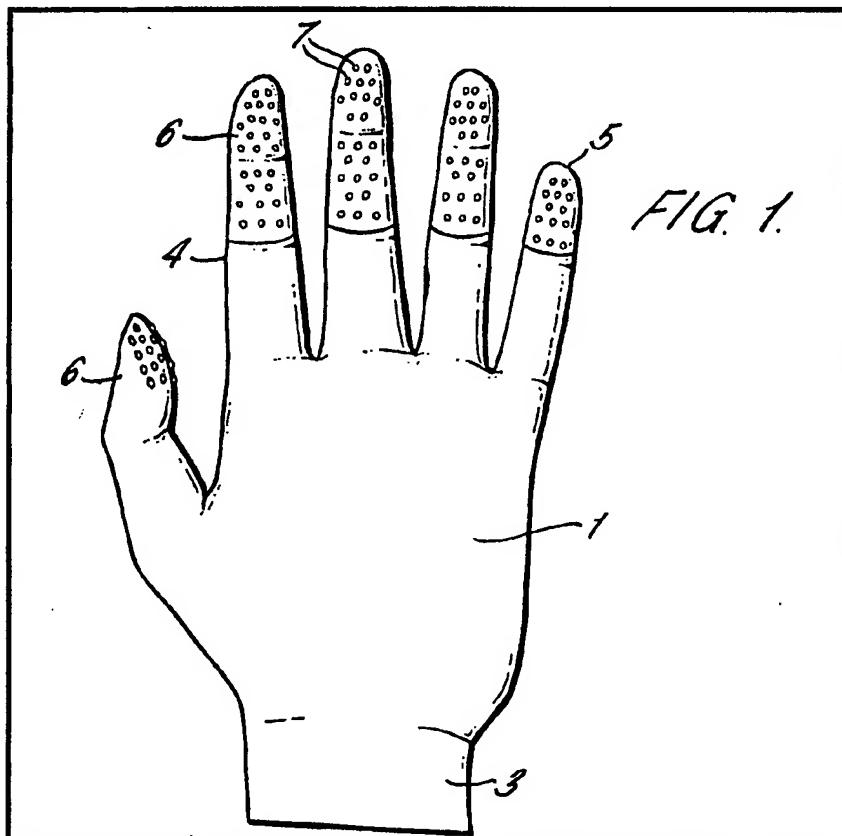
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(54) Shampoo glove

(57) A waterproof shampoo glove including flexible projections, e.g. pimples or cones, covering the end portions of at least one of the digits thereof in order to massage the hair during shampooing.

Preferably the glove is lined and carries integrally formed pimples (7) on reinforced tip portions (6) of the front of each digit; the backs of the digits being smooth.

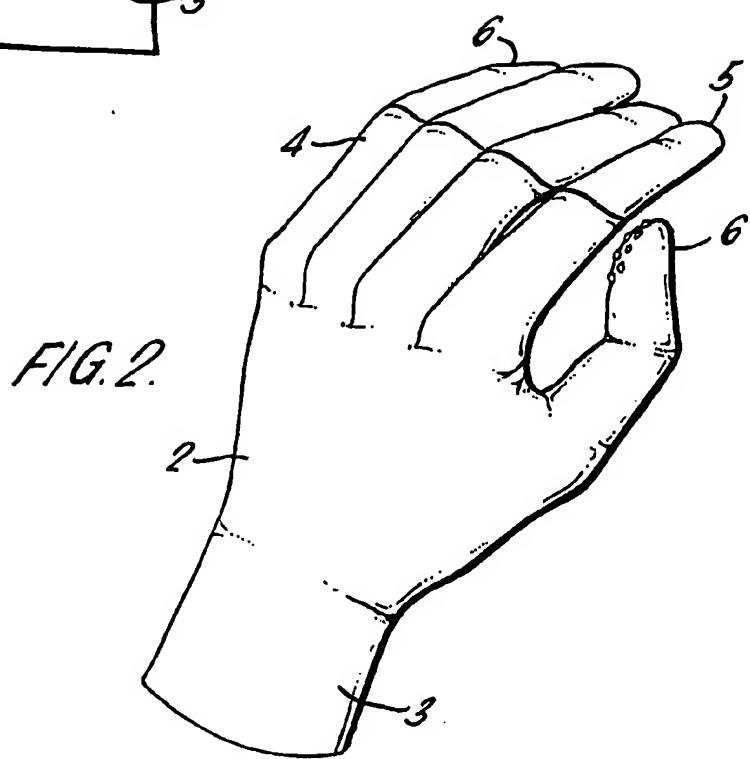
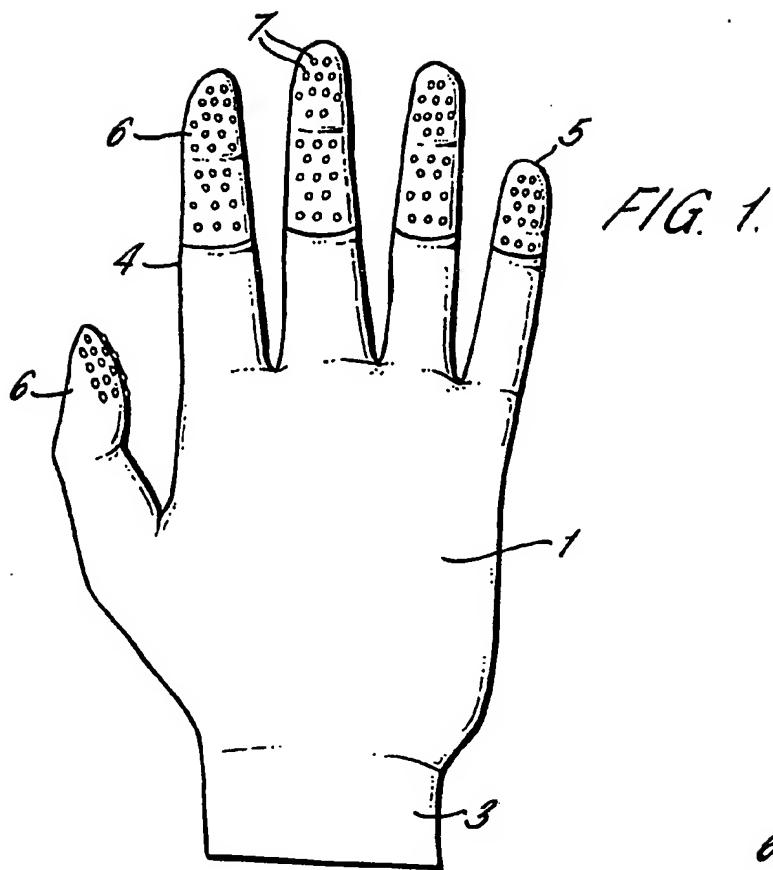


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The drawings originally filed were informal and the print here reproduced is taken from a later filed formal copy.

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SPECIFICATION

Shampoo glove

5 The present invention relates to waterproof shampoo gloves.

Staff in the hairdressing profession often experience skin troubles of varying severity due to the frequent wetting of their hands.

10 The shampooing of customers hair frequently gives rise to soreness and cuts in the hands of the shampooer, and can lead to dermatitis, regardless of the quality of the shampoo being used.

15 Although it is known for hairdressing staff to wear waterproof gloves when shampooing customers hair, there is a need for gloves specifically designed for shampooing hair. The present invention seeks to provide such gloves.

In accordance with the present invention there is provided a waterproof shampoo glove wherein a plurality of flexible projections are provided on at least a portion of the glove extending from the knuckle to the tip of at least one of the digits thereof.

Preferably the projections are provided on the knuckle-to-tip portions of all five digits of the glove, and the outer surface of the glove other than these portions is smooth. Although the projections can simply be stamped out of the material of the glove, it is preferred that the projections are solid in nature and have a certain degree of resilience. In particular, 35 when the glove is made of rubber or a rubber-like material, the projections are formed integrally with the digits of the glove, for example, by injection moulding.

It is sometimes found that the projections, 40 although resilient in themselves, do not possess sufficient rigidity when supported on a soft, pliable glove to shampoo hair effectively. It is therefore often desirable to reinforce the skin of the glove around the base of each 45 projection: One method of achieving this reinforcement is by dipping the tip portion of at least one digit of the glove into a treatment solution either to harden the material of the tip portions or to provide those portions with a 50 thickened skin.

The projections can be of any shape, but it has been found that hemispheres, cones or pyramids, the bases of which are disposed towards the glove, provide a very acceptable 55 shampooing action on hair. Since shampooers use both the front and the back of their hands when shampooing a customer, projections can if desired be provided on both the front and the back of the glove. For example,

60 hemispherical projections can be provided on the front of the glove and conical or pyramidal projections on the back of the glove. Usually, however, the back of the glove is left smooth.

An extended wrist portion is generally provided on the glove in order to prevent water

from splashing inside the glove during shampooing, and for ease of pulling on the glove an inner lining is often provided, for example of cotton. Shaping of the glove to form

70 crooked digits is also possible.

One embodiment of the present invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

75 *Figure 1* is a plan view of the front of a left-hand glove of the present invention, and

Figure 2 is a perspective view taken from above and to one side of the back of the glove of *Fig. 1*.

80 The glove shown in the drawings consists of a smooth palm portion 1 and back portion 2 extending into a wrist portion 3. The glove has separate digit portions 4 which are also smooth right up to the tips 5 on the back 85 thereof, but only up to the tip portion 6 on the front thereof. The glove has been shaped to form crooked digits.

On the front of the glove on each digit thereof a number of hemispherical pimples 7

90 are provided, but only over a part of the knuckle-to-tip portion thereof. On that section of each finger digit they extend from the second joint to the fingertip, whilst on the thumb they only extend from the last joint to

95 the fingertip. Pimples are provided on all five digits of the glove since when massaging the hair during shampooing using the front of the hand, all five digits are employed by the shampooer.

100 Rigidity is provided to the pimples 7 by reinforcing the skin of the glove of each digit around the base of each pimple. Conveniently this is achieved by providing a thickened skin, e.g. by solution dipping, for the tip portions 6

105 of the glove. The whole tip portion, i.e. both front and back, will then be reinforced. Usually the thumb is left unreinforced due to manufacturing limitations as shown in *Fig. 1*.

Resilient cones (not shown) can be provided

110 from the knuckle portion to the tip portion of the glove on the back of the glove, if desired. When using the back of the hand to massage hair during shampooing, the shampooer only uses his fingers, and thus cones need not be

115 provided on the back of the thumb portion of the glove. In addition, the cones need not extend right to the ends of each digit.

The material of which the glove is made is rubber, a synthetic plastics material, or a

120 mixture thereof so that the glove is fully waterproof and able to stretch over the shampooer's hand. In addition, the glove should be made of a material which will not pull, stretch or damage the hair or scalp during normal shampooing.

The inside of the glove is lined with a cotton-based material so that it is comfortable for the wearer and can be pulled on easily.

With the design of glove as illustrated in 130 the accompanying drawings, a professional

shampoo can be quickly given to a customer even by an experienced member of the hairdresser staff.

As usual, the gloves are sold in matching 5 pairs and in sizes adapted to fit varying sizes of hands.

CLAIMS

1. A waterproof shampoo glove wherein a 10 plurality of discrete flexible projections are provided on at least a portion of the glove extending from the knuckle to the tip of at least one of the digits thereof.
2. A glove as claimed in claim 1 wherein 15 the projections are provided on the knuckle-to-tip portions of all five digits of the glove.
3. A glove as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the outer surface of the glove other than the said knuckle-to-tip portion(s) is 20 smooth.
4. A glove as claimed in any one of the preceding claims made of rubber or a rubber-like material wherein the projections are integral with the digits of the glove.
5. A glove as claimed in any one of the 25 preceding claims wherein the projections are in the form of hemispheres, the bases of which are disposed towards the glove.
6. A glove as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the projections are in the form 30 of cones or pyramids, the bases of which are disposed towards the glove.
7. A glove as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the projections are 35 provided on both the front and the back of the glove.
8. A glove as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the tip portion of at least one digit is reinforced in order to impart 40 some rigidity to the projections.
9. A glove as claimed in any one of the preceding claims including an inner lining.
10. A glove as claimed in any one of the preceding claims including a wrist portion.
- 45 11. A waterproof shampoo glove substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.
12. A pair of matching waterproof shampoo 50 gloves, each being as claimed in any one of the preceding claims.